(3) A Rs. 10 crore corpus for ea research is being established with matching contributions from NABARD and tea industry.

(4) leading tea producers and exporters have been asked to draw up their production plan garden-wise and export plans for the next 5 years as part of their corporate plan.

(5) a scheme of awards for achievement in tea productivity has been announced.

Flood control measures in North Bengal

2444. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government consider it desirable to have bilateral dialogues with the Bangladesh Government in matters relating to flood control measures in North Bengal; and

(b) if so, what specific steps have been taken in that direction and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b) Matters relating to flood control measures are discussed bilaterally in the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission and the Committees under it. Information on flood control works and other relevant data on rivers identified in connection with floods is obtained and discussed to arrive at remedial measures.

Investment by Non-resident Indians in 'F' series of reliance

2445. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT:

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI.

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of all non-resident investors who invested Rs. 5.00 lakhs or more in Reliance 'F5 series debentures and whether such investments have been made through recognised foreign exchange dealers authorised by the Reserve Bank;

(b) whether any loans were advanced by any Indian banks operating outside India or foreign banks operating in India to such companies in foreign exchange through their foreign branches;

(c) what is the amount of loan given by each of the banks to each of the companies with the date of approval of each loan and the date of incorporation of each of the companies who received such loans;

(d) what are the reasons for which the Rangarajan Committee did not report on these loans in detail?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) The Rangarajan Committee has indicated in its report that the overseas branches of Bank of Baroda had granted advances aggregating US $ 33.7 million to 236 non-residents of Indian nationality/origin and 66 companies predominantly owned by non-resident Indians for acquiring 'F' serise debentures of Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL). Besides, the London branch of Canara Bank made advances to the extent of about US $ 1 4 million to seven non-residents of Indian nationality/origin for the same purpose

Reserve Bak of India has also intimated that it is understood that the Dubai and Bahrain Branches of Bank of Oman Ltd. have also reportedly given certain advances to non-resident Indians and that the total face value of the debentures subscribed through that Bank's oversea, branches was Rs 6 crores

Particulars regarding the individuals/companies to which the overseas branches of Indian Banks gave loans, etc. are being collected and to the extent information is available and permissible in accordance with the law practices and usages customary amongst bankers, will be laid on the Table of the House.